

COMBERTON CONTACT MARCH 2025

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PARISH COUNCIL

- Save the date -

July 5th 2025

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Comberton Summer Festival

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Ash Croft Veterinary Surgery 169 St Neots Rd, Hardwick	01954 210250
Baptist Church Church Office	264707
Benefits Agency Chesterton Road, Cambridge	545200
Comberton Catholics (Fr John Minh)	832397
Comberton Library	0345 045 5225
Comberton Playgroup	262373
Comberton Village College	262503
Adult Education	264721
Cambridge Water Emergencies	01223 706050
Anglia Water Sewerage Emergencies	03457 145 145
Environmental Health Services (South Cambs)	03450 450500
Meridian Primary School	262423
Nursery Way Sheltered Housing	264434
Parkside Police Station	01480 456111
Samaritans	364455
Social Services	264466
(emergency out-of-hours)	01733 561370
St Mary's Church (Curate Chris Westgarth)	07710 661003
Street Light Failure reporting helpline	01954 233330
Village Help Scheme (Chairman Barbara Mitton), See panel on page 7 for transport bookings	262073
Wood Green Animal Shelter	01480 830014
Stray dogs (South Cambs DC)	443000

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Regular dates for your diary

Day	Time	What	Where
Monday	Morning	Monday Studio	VH
Monday	9.30am - 11am	Messy Play (term time only)	CP
Monday	9.45am - 11am	Comberton Walkers	BC
Monday	3.40pm - 5.35pm	Children's Street Dance Classes	MS
Monday	6pm - 7pm	Tang Soo Do Junior 6-11	MS
Monday	7pm - 9pm	Tang Soo Do	MS
1 st , 2 nd , 4 th Monday	7pm - 9pm	Carpet Bowls	VH
3 rd Monday	7pm - 9pm	Comberton Winemakers	VH
Tuesday	10.30am - 12 noon	Cafe	VH
Tuesday	1.30pm - 4pm	Fabric and Yarns	BC
Tuesday	6.45pm - 7.30pm	ChaSamba Adult Fitness	MS
2 nd Tuesday	8pm (Except Aug)	Comberton WI	VH
4 th Tuesday	8pm - 9:30pm	Comberton Antiquarian Society	VH
Wednesday	10am - 11:30am	Comberton Baby & Toddler Group	VH
Wednesday	2pm - 3:30pm (term time only)	Bumps & Babes	BC
Wednesday	5.30pm-6.30pm	Pilates Class - book via www.faybpilates.co.uk	MS
Wednesday	6.45pm-7.45pm	U15 Football Club	CVC
Wednesday	7pm - 9pm	Tang Soo Do	MS
Thursday	9.30am - 11am	Messy Play (term time only)	CP
Thursday	5.45pm-6.45pm	U8 Football Club	CVC
2 nd Thursday	2.30pm	Comberton Friendship	VH
4 th Thursday (not Dec & Aug)	2.30pm - 4pm	Oasis Teas	VH
3 rd Friday	7pm (7:30pm start)	Bingo Party	VH

VH = Village Hall CVC = Comberton Village College
 BC = Baptist Church MS = Meridian School
 CP = Comberton Playgroup

Parish Council

Meetings are normally held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

We welcome public attendance and the agendas and minutes can be found at <https://comberton-pc.gov.uk/decisions-meetings/agendas-and-minutes>

Wheelie Bin Collection Dates

Thursday 6 th March	Black
Thursday 13 th March	Blue & Green
Thursday 20 th March	Black
Thursday 27 th March	Blue & Green
Thursday 3 rd April	Black



Advertising Rates

	Size (w x h)	Annual (10 editions)	Single Edition
Whole page	122mm x 183mm	£475	£60
3/5 page	122mm x 109mm	£285	£36
2/5 page	122mm x 72mm	£190	£24
1/5 page	122mm x 35mm	£95	£12
1/5 page	60mm x 72mm	£95	£12
Back page (colour)	122mm x 183mm	One-off only	£90

Comberton Contact Team

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Treasurer and Advertising Terry Coad 01223 263264
treasurer@combertoncontact.org.uk 38 Westlands

Distribution Marian Dymott 01223 263292

Please supply copy via email in a plain text format and images in jpg, png or pdf with 300 dpi. Please send any submissions for the April magazine by 15th March 2025. Submissions will only be acknowledged if requested and this may take up to a week.

From the Editor

The days are starting to get noticeably longer, which is an encouraging sign that spring is coming. The weather doesn't seem to have a spring feeling yet though, with cold days and frequent wind and rain.

I'd like to make a plea once again for some new contributors - please consider if you can write an article about an activity in the village or something of general interest to Combertonians. It doesn't have to be a finished piece - I'm happy to write something based on your notes or even a conversation or interview.

James Gilbert 07768 421049 editor@combertoncontact.org.uk



Comberton Village Website

Regular updates are available at www.comberton.org

Local Government Contacts

Parish Council Chair

Jennifer Martin
jen.martin@comberton-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council Clerk

Jessie Brewer
clerk@comberton-pc.gov.uk

Comberton Parish Council
PO Box 1549
CAMBRIDGE DO
CB1 0ZS

District Councillors

Ariel Cahn 01223 232186
cllr.cahna@scambs.gov.uk

Dr Lisa Redrup 07855 324580
cllr.redrup@scambs.gov.uk

County Councillor

Michael Atkins 07968 264637
michael.atkins@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Village Help Scheme

Volunteer Drivers Schedule

To book transport please see the dates below and call the appropriate number

For the following weeks:

24 February 2025	Joan Wells	01223 262746
03 March 2025	Gill Redman	01223 262246
10 March 2025	Gill Redman	01223 262246
17 March 2025	Barbara Mitton	01223 262073
24 March 2025	Barbara Mitton	01223 262073
31 March 2025	Angela Donnelly	01223 263283
07 April 2025	Angela Donnelly	01223 263283

Please Note

With the closure of the Butchers payments should now be made at the pub.

More drivers are **URGENTLY** required for this essential service.

For more information please contact

Mrs Gill Redman on 01223 262246

Mrs Barbara Mitton on 01223 262073



Comberton Luncheon Club

28 March - George & Dragon, Elsworth

All lunches are at 12:30 pm

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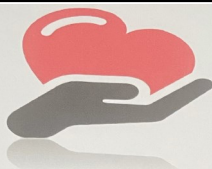
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Saturday
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at noon



Lent
Lunch

Activities



Every Wednesday at 11am - **Men's Shed** at Madingley Hall

Ash Wednesday 5th March at noon - Ashing & Communion at Dry Drayton Church

Ash Wednesday 5th March at 7pm - Ashing & Communion at Barton Church

Thursday 27th Feb at 2.30pm - **Oasis Teas** in Comberton Village Hall

Sun 30th March at 9.30am - **Mothering Sunday All-Age Communion** at St Mary's



Regular Services in St Mary's Church Building

Sun 2nd Mar at 9.30am - **Holy Communion**

Sun 9th Mar at 8.00am - **BCP Holy Communion**
at 9.30am - **Morning Worship**

Sun 16th Mar at 9.30am - **Holy Communion**

Sun 23rd Mar at 8.00am - **BCP Holy Communion**
9.30am - **Holy Communion**

On-line Services



Zoom Church: Sunday at 11am - ID: **8231 1473 640**

Tuesday Morning Prayer on Zoom at 9.30am - ID: **495 061 1016**

Wednesday Compline on Zoom at 8pm - ID: **899 215 191**



Quiet Prayer

Our church building is usually open from
7.30am-3pm for visits & individual prayer.

On-line Giving

We can now accept on-line donations;
more information on our website.



Find us on Facebook:
St Mary's Church, Comberton

For information about Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals,
please contact The Rev'd Chris Westgarth

Associate Priest: The Rev'd Chris Westgarth

chris.westgarth@btinternet.com

Tel: 07710 661003

http://

 www.stmaryscomberton.org

Team Curate: The Rev'd Barnabas Leeke

barnabasleeke@lordsbridge.org

Tel: 07787 800888

Churchwardens:

Michael Edwards, 01223 262748, michael@kentings.co.uk

Teresa Taylor, 07717 001429, ptc.taylor@btinternet.com

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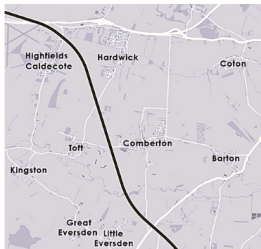
Andrina Baldock, Foot Health Practitioner, SAC Dip, FHPP FHPT
Register for Foot Health Practitioners Member

Comberton Parish Council Bulletin - March 2025

The Parish Council has started planning for the Comberton Summer Festival, to take place on 5th July on the Recreation Ground. We invite:

- locals who want to run a stall
- locals who would like to be part of the “event day management team”
- locals who have an activity they would like to run on the stage or in a marquee.

to contact us via the Parish Council clerk.



The Parish Council wishes to deliver a public meeting at the beginning of June to inform residents about EWR (East West Rail). We are looking for volunteers that could study details of the route, understand the various aspects of the impact on the village, and analyse the options that may be available to Comberton as part of the project. If you are willing to participate in this thorough investigation, please contact the Parish Council clerk.

As you may have seen, the Parish Council is planning on delivering quite a few new projects over the next year and would be keen to hear from anyone with experience of grant making bodies and writing grant applications.





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Parish Council Bulletin (continued)

We wish to remind residents to take care when parking throughout the village and ensure that vehicles are not driven over or parked on the soft verges, causing damage. Please also ensure that the paved footpaths are unobstructed by parked vehicles and vehicles are parked clear of junctions for the safety of all.



We received updates on the Comberton and Barton Greenways, which are both progressing well. Road works will soon start in Barton, adding two raised tables, a zebra crossing and several speed bumps. Works will take place in Coton over the summer. It is planned that both Greenways, including all the off-road cycle paths, will be delivered by December 2026. Details can be found on the Greater Cambridge Partnership website.

The Parish Council is in the process of installing an improved network of CCTV cameras on the recreation ground. We hope this will deter anti-social behaviour in the area and help us identify culprits.



Cllr Claire Michel, Vice-chair

The Parish Council meets on the 2nd Wed of each month at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall. Agendas and minutes are published on our website. Residents can attend the full meeting and the first 15 min are reserved for their comments.

Parish Council clerk: clerk@comberton-pc.gov.uk

Website: <https://comberton-pc.gov.uk/>

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 on 01223 208529 (Wimpole)

E-mail bg@moncraft.co.uk

Comberton Antiquarian Society

Our meeting this month will be Tuesday 25th March when Vince Lea will give a talk on

The Bourn Brook

Vince Lea is a conservation officer with The Countryside Regeneration Trust (CRT).

His role at CRT includes all aspects of conservation. His work includes running a mink-control operation in Cambridgeshire which, it is hoped, will provide a model for future eradication nationally. Water voles have now returned to the Bourn Brook thanks to the removal of many mink over the last ten years.

The meeting will be at 8pm in Comberton Village Hall.

Comberton WI

At our January meeting our speaker was Graham Bruce speaking about Flour Milling Through the Ages. This speaker was arranged as a follow up to our successful visit to Bourn Windmill in August 2023.

At our March meeting the Speaker will be Graham Wylde speaking about The Maggie Letters - life in Victorian Times.

Our meetings are held at Comberton Village Hall on the second Tuesday of each month starting at 8 pm. All are very welcome to attend.

Sue Lewis
Comberton WI

Chat | Tea | Coffee | Cake | Play | Craft | Songs

Bumps and Babies

Baby & Toddler Group | Wednesday | 2-3.30pm | Comberton Baptist Church

Fabric & Yarns

Patchwork | Sew | Knit | Crochet | Embroider | Tea | Cake

Tuesday | 1.30-4pm | Comberton Baptist Church Centre

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Bi Annual Art and Crafts Exhibition 12th and 13th July 2025 – Village Hall Comberton



Monday Studio, Comberton's resident art group, will be holding their bi-annual Art and Crafts Exhibition on the 12th and 13th July 2025 in the Village Hall and **we are looking for contributors**.

This is a glorious weekend event for village people and visitors and is very well supported, taking place one of the weekends of "Open Studios".

The ethos of the exhibition is to give artists and crafters the opportunity to display and show off their wares, and if you desire, to sell them. The participating criteria is that you live in or are associated with a group active in the village of Comberton. Maybe you paint at the Village College, do calligraphy or do craft skills at other venues in the village.

Don't be shy we know that every village has a wealth of talented artists and crafters and now is a wonderful opportunity for you to showcase your talents. Previously we have accommodated artists working in every medium; drawings; painters; wood turners; quilters; knitters; jewellery makers; card makers; candle makers; an iconographer; gift makers and much more

Please help us to make this a very special village event and contact Angela Donnelly or Janet Mancuso, if you are interested in showing others your talents.

Phone 01223 263283 or 07731875664 or

email combertonmondaystudio@gmail.com .

This event is sponsored by The Village Hall Trustees.

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Bryn Terfel

Ioan Hotea

Olga Peretyatko

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Parish Council Nature Recovery Group

You may have seen from recent articles in Contact that a Parish Council Nature Recovery Group has been established in response to the Environment Act 2021, which imposes a statutory duty on local government to help enhance wildlife in England and Wales. The group aims to identify sites of value to nature in the parish and create a network of wildlife corridors radiating from St Mary's churchyard.

Following an initial open meeting in February 2024, the next step was for a team of volunteers from the village to walk along footpaths throughout the parish. They recorded the wildlife habitats using a standardised national habitat mapping methodology. Comberton is in an attractive rural landscape surrounded by productive agriculture, with many features of conservation interest. These include small areas of woodland, hedgerows, grasslands, watercourses and farmland, some of which is in agri-environment schemes.

The mapping project did not cover one of the most important habitats in the parish, the village gardens. To help fill this gap, a garden wildlife survey questionnaire was included in the December edition of Contact. The completed questionnaires provided valuable information on the species of animals and plants present in the village gardens and the actions that are already being taken by residents to support and enjoy wildlife. It is clear from the survey replies that the rural environment is cherished by local people. Many replies gave suggestions on future initiatives to strengthen the protection and management of natural habitats around the village.

Another open Nature Recovery Meeting is going to be held in the village hall at 7:45pm on **18th March**. This will provide an update on the habitat mapping project and the garden wildlife questionnaire. The meeting will be the opportunity for everyone to suggest ideas and small projects to help nature recovery in the parish. We look forward to hearing your ideas for future initiatives.

Comberton Nature Recovery Group
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Barton Guides Pyjama Party



Thinking Day is the 22nd February and is celebrated worldwide by girl guides and girl scouts. This year Anglia Guides has up to 21,000 girls having a pyjama Party sleepover. Barton and Gransden guides spent the night at St Mary's Comberton church.

During the evening there was

- A scavenger quiz discovering about the history of guiding.
- Balloon volleyball over the pews.
- Pizza delivery.
- Hot chocolate with whipped cream and marshmallows.
- Decorating teddy bear t-shirts.
- An organ recital (by the editor of Contact) followed by girls playing music they normally play on the piano.
- Making Japanese friendship bracelets using a jig made by a leaders husband on his 3D printer.
- And an indoor campfire sharing and learning new camp songs



This was followed by creating sleeping dens between the church pews decorated with fairy lights. It was a fabulous evening sharing guide fellowship and making new friends and memories.

Ruth Colenso – leader of Barton guides



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info@betterhomecare.co.uk
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Comberton Winemakers

The Comberton Winemakers club would love to welcome new members this year.

We are a local club aimed at promoting the making and enjoyment of home-made country wines as well as the appreciation of commercial wines.



<https://www.combertonwineclub.co.uk/>

We have regular meetings in Comberton village hall on the third Monday of most months with friendly wine making competitions, commercial wine tastings, and social events throughout the year.

If you would be interested in joining please don't hesitate to contact us.

combertonwineclub@gmail.com

February Challenge Solution

SPONSORED BY COMBERTON CO-OP

Each of the following cities, towns needed to be slotted into one of the 'frames'.

RIGA PARIS HILO HOVE CALI OSLO ERIE DISS DEAL
RENO MESA IVER NOME ETON HALE INCE LIMA ROME
BERN AGRA

PATISSERIES

CLIMACTIC

INDISSOLUBLE

WHALEBONE

SHOVELHEAD

PRENOTION

SHIVERING

CABERNET

PINCERS

ASTRONOMER

JETONS

IDEALIST

SCALING

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

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CAPARISON

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PARMESAN

PROMETHIUS

ANAGRAM

The winner is **Maureen Chadwick** of Morris Close.

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COMBERTON CINEMA

Comberton Village Hall

Thelma

15

Starring June Squibb and Fred Hechinger



Based on the experiences of writer/director Josh Margolin's own grandmother, and marking June Squibb's first leading film role of her 70+ year career, *Thelma* is a celebration and playful subversion of the action genre as well as a soulful exploration of aging and autonomy.

When 93-year-old Thelma Post gets duped by a phone scammer pretending to be her grandson, she sets out on a treacherous quest across the city to reclaim what was taken from her.

Thelma puts a clever spin on movies like *Mission: Impossible*, shining the spotlight on an elderly grandmother as an unlikely action hero.

Wednesday 19th March 2025

Doors open 7.30 Film begins 7.45

Tickets £5 on the door

For further information or if you would like a lift please
contact Sandra Hyde Tel: 262075

This event is sponsored by Comberton Village Hall Trustees

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AIP Approved 12/02/2024





Comberton Twinning Association would like to invite you to a

SWISS CHEESE FONDUE NIGHT

on Saturday March 15th 2025



In Comberton Village Hall.

Hall doors open from 7.00pm

Includes raffle and a simple Quiz.

Please book a table in advance for you and your friends (tables of up to 6/8 people) and enjoy a home-made **Swiss cheese fondue** plus nibbles/starter and dessert (last bookings by 10th March please).

Bring your own drinks/glasses.

Tickets are £15 per adult, £9 for children age 13 and under.

Tickets available from :

Liz Bland 07889 271166 chair@combertontwinning.org.uk (Comberton)

All welcome: existing members, new and potential members and anyone who likes a cheese fondue.

The purpose of this event is to raise funds for our visits to, and to receive visits from, Le Vaudreuil, near Rouen in Normandy.

Oakes and Watson Tree Surgery and Consultancy and Peter Oakes and Daughter Tree Surgery



Due to my father semi retiring in October 2017 my husband and I have continued the business that he set up some 25 years ago by combining it with our own.

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March Challenge

Sponsored by the Comberton Co-Op

A COMPLETE CHANGE OF DIRECTION (Kemi to Kier ??)

Your task this month is to provide 24 word/pairs which show a clear change of direction by swapping cardinal points e.g, whip and ship where west becomes south. Please note that a minimum of 2 of the 24 must contain a double change e.g. Granny/Grassy and a further 2 must comprise 6 letter pairs/ words.

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Entries to the store no later than the 14th March please . First correct entry out of the hat scoops a prize generously offered by the CO-OP

Name/Address.....



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We walk alternative Sundays between 5 – 7 miles.

You are welcome to join us on any two of our walks to see if our group is for you. Then, once you have enjoyed the views, fun, exhilaration, it is just a case of becoming a member.

Annual membership fee is £10.00 per person.

No dogs are allowed except assistance dogs.

For further information please contact me by emailing :
stella.hardwicke2274@hotmail.com or telephoning 01954 210049,
mobile 07930951703.

Stella – Secretary of the Comberton Ramblers

<https://combertonramblers.org.uk>

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Coming Up!

Warm space, your space this winter is here again at Comberton Library. Every **Wednesday: 2.30pm – 5pm**. There will be tea/coffee/cuppa soup and biscuits. A place for you to keep warm, to read/borrow, use WiFi and computer access also available.

"Change and adapt" is the theme for the **Science Week** event, Friday, **March 7th** at Comberton Library. Families can participate in science activities.

In **April**, there's the Easter Hunt during the Easter Break more information will follow. Additionally, there will be quotations recited and children will have the chance to create and decorate their crowns starting from **April 24th - 28th**, which is Shakespeare Week.

Weekly activities

Knit, Sew and Natter group meet in Comberton Library at 10.30am – 11.30am. March dates: 3rd, 17th and 31st. Then every other Monday onwards. **Newcomers** are most welcome to complete your own projects, start a new or participate in group activities. There is always tea, coffee and biscuits available.

Come sing along and have fun, **Rhymetime**, 10.30am – 11.00am (except during the school holidays) for children between 0 to 4 years of age. March dates: 10th and 24th. Then every other week. Also, come and join the **First Steps Library Club**, aged 0 – 4 years. Free event.

It's Lego Time with Duplo. Every Saturday from 10.30am. Come and have fun using your imagination. All children must be accompanied by an adult. **This is a free event.**

Opening hours (excluding bank holidays etc.)

Monday	10am – 1pm
Wednesday	10am – 1pm and 2.30pm – 5.30pm
Friday	2.30pm – 5.30pm
Saturday	10am – 1pm

E D G E

COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB

**THURSDAYS. 4 PM TO 6 PM.
COMBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH.**

Comberton Village Hall Lettings Charges

	Private Individuals		Community Groups *		Community Commercial	
	Comberton Residents	Non-Residents	Affiliated	Non-Affiliated	Local/Non-Franchised	Non-Local/Franchised
SESSION	Main Hall		Main Hall		Main Hall	
Daytime	£25	£35	£20	£30	£40	£45
Evenings (except Saturday)	£40	£50	£20 *	£30 *	£40	£50
Saturday eve.	£70	£85	£20 *	£30 *	£145 *	£165
	Meeting Room		Meeting Room		Meeting Room	
All sessions	£17.50	£22.50	£17.50	£22.50	£30	£32.50
	Community Room		Community Room		Community Room	
All sessions	£15	£20	£15	£20	£25	£27.50

Unless otherwise stated, charges are per session. Sessions are 9am to 1pm, 2pm to 5:30pm and 6pm to 10:30pm (midnight on Fri/Sat/Sun).

A refundable deposit of £50 is required at the time of booking.

Prices for commercial lettings and weddings are available on request.

*Additional information for groups:

- Affiliated Community groups holding evening group social or fundraising events will be charged the residents evening rates. Non-affiliated groups holding similar events will be charged the non-residents evening rates. **Local/Non-franchised Community Commercial lettings can be reduced from £145 to £70 at the discretion of the Trustees, if the event is for a suitable charity. Groups should write to the Lettings Secretary with their request, including information on the charity, and this will be considered by the Trustees.**
- Groups working with children and/or vulnerable adults will need to have child protection and vulnerable adult policies & procedures in place
- Annual affiliation fee of £10 is due on 1st January.

More information, including hall availability, can be found at www.combertonvillagehall.org

To make a booking contact the Village Hall Administrator, Janice Sutton at combertonvillagehall@gmail.com or on 07435 324408 (9am to 9pm). Please note that this is a part-time role carried out around my job. If I am unable to answer your call please leave a message and i will phone you back, or send me an email.



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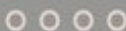
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